

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Applicants respectfully submit that the remarks presented herein put the claims in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration thereof.

Prior to this amendment, claims 20-25, 28, 35-38, and 41-46 were pending and had been examined. The Examiner indicated that claims 35-38 and 41-46 are allowable. The Examiner also indicated that claims 20-25 and 28 are free of the art.

Obviousness-type Double-Patenting Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 20-25 and 28 under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent 5,756,465 (hereinafter "the '465 patent").

Applicants have filed concurrently herewith a Terminal Disclaimer over the '465 patent. This obviates the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 20-25 and 28. Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in form for allowance. If the Examiner believes, however, that any matters remain outstanding, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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